

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 199

By Burks

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Adam Gothard on placing first at the 2008 North American Livestock Expo.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those young citizens who, through their extraordinary efforts, have distinguished themselves as leaders in the field of agriculture, for which Tennessee is world-renowned; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is fourteen-year-old Adam Gothard of Cookeville, who recently placed first in national competition at the 2008 North American Livestock Expo, held in Louisville, Kentucky, where cattle breeders from several states converged to compete; and

WHEREAS, the Avery Trace Middle School eighth-grader won this honor by showing Blossom, a Limousin heifer that Mr. Gothard has been training and caring for diligently; and

WHEREAS, Adam Gothard is quick to share credit with others who, he insists, have been instrumental in his success; he cites Jessica McCartt, a Tennessee Technical University agriculture major who has worked closely with Mr. Gothard on his showmanship skills, and Wayne Key, advisor to the Putnam County 4-H Club, in which Mr. Gothard has been very active; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his recent win at the Livestock Expo, Adam Gothard has garnered a number of awards and accolades as a young cattleman; with Blossom, Mr. Gothard has taken ribbons and trophies at the 2008 Tennessee State Fair, where his heifer was named Grand Champion; the Rocky Top Classic; the University of Tennessee Block and Bridle, where Blossom was named Grand Champion; the Tennessee Limousin Breeders Association Annual Field Day, where his animal took the Grand Champion honor; the Appalachian Fair in Gray; and

at 2008 county fairs in Putnam, DeKalb, Wilson, Cumberland, Overton, Warren, Macon, and Smith counties; and

WHEREAS, a leader among his peers, Mr. Gothard is the President of the Junior Limousin Association; he earns excellent grades at Avery Trace Middle, plays basketball and baseball, and keeps his hand-eye coordination keen by playing video games when he finds the opportunity; and

WHEREAS, Adam Gothard lives with his parents, Randy and Joy Gothard, and like his father, Adam Gothard has been raised around cattle farming; the family owns and operates Gothard Farms in Silver Point, which specializes in Limousin pure-bred cattle; and

WHEREAS, between school and his many other activities, it would seem that Adam Gothard has little time to devote to any other pursuits, and yet he also works part-time keeping track of bid tickets for auctioneers at estate auctions, an occupation he enjoys thanks to his mother, an attorney who often handles estate issues; and

WHEREAS, as a result of all his activities, Mr. Gothard has learned the value of hard work and thrift as well as the importance of self-reliance; this kind of understanding, all too rare among young men Mr. Gothard's age, will no doubt serve him well in the near future, as he continues his involvement in the world of cattle farming, and beyond; and

WHEREAS, Adam Gothard truly epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Mr. Gothard for his dedication to the advancement of agriculture in the State of Tennessee; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Adam Gothard on placing first at the 2008 North American Livestock Expo and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.